

**CHILBOLTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**DRAFT –Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 6 November '23; 18:30 at Chilbolton Village Hall**

Present: Cllrs Tony Ewer (Chairman) (TE), David Griffiths (Vice-Chairman) (DG), Geoff Cockram (GC), David Hall (DH), Julian Hudson (JH), Sue Larcombe (SL), George Marits (GM), Mandy Denyer (Clerk) (MD), TVBC/HCC Cllr David Drew (DD)  
Members of public: NONE

1. Apologies: Cllr Rick Franke; Due to Cllr Franke ill health a 6 month leave of absence was granted. All in attendance wished Rick a full and speedy recovery.
2. Declaration of Interest: NONE
3. To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 2 October '23: These were agreed and signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

4. Matters Arising:

**COSC -**

Warden arrangements for Common - DG to draft article for Parish Magazine asking for volunteers. (To date one volunteer has made contact with the Clerk) – Cllrs agreed to the scheme and to NH re-drafting an article for the parish magazine. DG advised that 90% of visitors to the Common are respectful of the conservation area. The 10% that don't are likely to be defensive and possibly abusive. He is therefore reluctant to ask volunteers to approach these people. **Action: NH**

Tree survey –

To obtain quotes to deal with larger trees **Action: COSC/ongoing**  
COSC to produce a full report of any actions to be taken and any reasons for not taking action. **Action: COSC**  
DG informed that N Ives has looked at trees on CPC land and is in the process of producing a report.  
DG informed that with a shortage of trained chainsaw operators available this work may need to be carried out by contractors.

DG and GC to meet and discuss where WMPF boundary posts need to be installed **Action: DG & GC**

TE to discuss with WMPF adj. land owner (Mr Saunders) if there is any possibility of providing a permissive footpath/vehicle track from Coley Lane to WMPF via the 'bee field'. **Action: TE**

A member of the public made a call to the police at the weekend to report antisocial behaviour, only to be told that the Andover Police Station is closed at weekend. DD advised contacting Police Commissioner Donna Jones and Caroline Nokes MP. TE has contacted Donna Jones but has had no acknowledgement. **Action: TE**

Coronation Green – Plaque ordered. Bench to be repaired and repainted before plaque attached. A Bond to repair and attach plaque.

TE to talk to DVLA to see if car owner details can be given to CPC of those vehicles that park inappropriately so that CPC may write to the owners warning that if they are caught parking inconsiderately again they may be fined. **Action: TE**

Chilbolton Store request to put a notice board on the finger post on the Common – Noticeboard purchased and delivered to the shop. **Action: Complete**

**Planning –**

Request for TPOs to be placed on trees at Winston, Village Street not granted – Response from TVBC ([6223 2](#)). CPC to challenge this decision. SL email to TVBC ([6323 11](#)). SL to chase. **Action: SL/Ongoing**

Agreed and Signed ..... (Chairman)

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TE and SL to introduce CPC to the residents of Valley Field Park in early spring.

Action: TE/SL

Highways –

GM informed that the HCC are giving away speed signs. GC to investigate.

Action: GC

5. To take questions and to discuss and decide on any proposals within the monthly reports as follows:

A. Finance Report: Prior to the meeting MD circulated the attached report ([61123 17](#)).

DH checked, agreed and signed the bank reconciliation check.

- i. Approval of accounts for payment: In addition to those payments listed in the finance report, there were 2 other payments approved by Cllrs – Test Valley School presentation evening (\$137) £25, Nick Adams £195 (post installation inspection of Adventure Tower). Caledonia Play (WMPF Capital) invoice for the balance of £23263.50 was discussed and Cllrs agreed that payment is not to be made until after another post installation inspection and any snagging has been rectified. MD to submit all current invoices to TVBC for the release of the 50% CAF grant funding.

Action: MD

The 'Opening Ceremony' for the Adventure Tower was then discussed. MD to inform WMPF DG of the following: - The Andover Advertiser, DD as TVBC Cllr, a member of STFC, a member of the film company who made the Community Projects donation to CPC and CPC Cllrs to be invited.

There is to be no formally gathering at the Abbots Mitre.

WMPF DG to request a couple of suitable dates from TVBC for the opening ceremony to be held in the New Year.

WMPF DG to be asked to check all other play equipment (with the exception of the Basketball systems) are in working order.

Action: MD

MD to ask that WMPF DG to update the 'WMPF development Wish List'. It has been a while since residents were asked what they would like to see at the WMPF and priorities may have changed.

Action: MD

B. Flood Advisory Group: Prior to the meeting GM circulated the attached report ([61123 8](#)). A new dipper has now been received. The dip has shown the highest level ever for a November.

Ditch works need to be undertaken on land owned by Abbots Rest.

GM to request HCC Highways to jet the drain adj. to Abbots Mitre, and will inform owners of Abbots Rest so they are aware.

Action: GM

DD to check if land owners have a riparian responsibility to clear the ditch at the request of HCC Highways.

C. Highways: GC reported that there was a tree down across Coley Lane last week but was quickly removed (possibly by HCC Highways). The barrier at the Coley Lane/May Fly junction has now been repaired. GM reported that the grit bin at the junction of Station Rd and Little Drove Rd is in need of repair or replacement.

D. Open Spaces Committee (COSC):

- i. COSC meeting minutes: There was no COSC meeting in October. Prior to the meeting DG circulated the attached update report ([61123 16](#)) and Common report from M Grove ([61123 16a](#)).

In addition DG reported the following: -

Joys Lane/Common horse access gate: HCC to fund 2/3 of the cost for a new gate. CPC will need to fund the remainder plus installation costs. Cllrs agreed.

Common autumn top cut has been done today.

There are 2 dead ash trees that have fallen on the boundary fence. TE to ask Freelands if they can remove these trees.

Action: TE

DG is to ask a COSC member to take on the investigation of RPA grants (SFI and delinked payments).

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SSEN have requested permission to remove/trim trees along the Ivy Farm path that are hazardous to the powerlines. Consent was given.

Due to lack of volunteers, DG informed that he has requested R West cut more of WD so that the remaining work is more manageable for the WD working party. This will incur additional cost of c. £350. Cllrs agreed. The majority of the tree works, as per the tree survey, will need to be undertaken by professionals and this will not be cheap. Cllrs agreed that 3 quotes should be obtained and for the purposes of the discussion and decision of the 24/25 budget an estimated cost is to be used.

MD informed that there was only one box of dog waste bags remaining in stock. Cllrs agreed to the purchase of dog waste bags.

**Action: MD**

- ii. Fishing Rights update: Prior to the meeting TE circulated the attached report ([61123 15](#)). The solicitors for the Church Commission have confirmed that they will cover the cost of drawing up the deed and for the registration of the deed. CPC will have to pay for its own legal advice. Cllrs agreed.
- iii. To discuss and decide on COSC proposed Cutting of Stock Green Policy: As there was no COSC meeting in Oct. this matter was deferred to CPC December meeting.
- iv. To discuss and decide on Agreement for Common residents parking: As requested MD sent letters/emails to Common residents seeking their opinion on an official arrangement for parking on the Common. To date 3 of the 4 properties have responded that they would be willing to enter an official agreement, with two commenting that on occasion more than 2 vehicles may be required to park on the Common, as such contractors working on their properties and visitors. An official agreement needs to be drawn up.  
**Action: COSC**
- v. Update on enclosing the WMPF to be able to apply for an 'Enclosed Sports Area' under the TVBC Public Spaces Protection Order: DG to investigate further by contacting Dave Tasker from TVBC. **Action: DG**
- vi. To discuss and decide on criteria for allowing Common gate code to be released to blue badge holders: It was agreed that anyone wishing to apply only need send a copy of their blue badge to the Clerk. This arrangement needs to be displayed on the Common notice board and TE will write a note on the matter in this next parish magazine article.  
**Action: MD & TE**
- vii. To discuss and decide on whether to join the pan-parish group re River Test pollution: See correspondence ([61123 11](#)). After brief discussion, it was agreed to join the group. MG to investigate and DH offered assistance.  
**Action: GM**
- E. Planning Committee: Prior to the meeting SL circulated the attached report ([61123 9](#)) and minutes of the meeting held on 16 October '23 ([61123 9a](#)). In addition, SL reported the following: -  
Fenstanton 23/02040/VARN is to be refused by TVBC.  
Land Adj. to 13 Branksome Close is going to auction.  
Land Adj. to Copyhold has been sold.  
CPC objection to the Wherwell Solar Farm has been submitted.
- F. Village Hall: Prior to the meeting TE circulated the attached report ([61123 14](#)). In addition, TE reported: -  
The quiz night was a success, making a profit of c. £500. The warm hub is up and running again. The last film show was not well received. The CVHMC AGM to be held at end of November: TE will be standing down as Chairman; GC has said will put himself forward for election. The entrance hall and toilets will be decorated at

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the end of November. CVHMC have agreed to fund 50% of the hall hire for the NHS App presentation if CPC fund the remainder. Cllrs agreed.

**G. Community Fundraising Group:**

- i. To include update on Solar Farm: The next step is to meet with REPD with the Wherwell Group. As yet the Wherwell Group have not been able to arrange a date. It was agreed that if a date was not agreed in the next 2 weeks then DH should approach REPD directly. Legal advice will be needed to ensure that any agreement drawn up is correct, legally binding and 'tied' to the solar farm regardless of who operates the solar farm.

DD has asked TVBC Officers to investigate how they may be able to advise parishes on the procedure for community financial contributions from these types of developments.

- H. Strategy Working Group (SWG) update: TE reported that he has now received the TVBC report and questionnaire for housing needs and the site selection protocol. TE will circulate these for the SWG for discussion at their next meeting. Cllrs agreed to TVBC carrying out housing needs survey (fully funded by TVBC).

The site visit to Wickham is still in the pipeline.

TCBC Local Plan has been delayed until the Spring of 2024.

**6. HCC and District Councillor reports:**

Prior to the meeting DD circulated the attached HCC report ([61123 19](#)) and reported the following for TVBC: - Andover Christmas Festival - 17 November, 4pm to 8pm (more details can be found [here](#)).

3 men from Southampton have been caught and fined for dumping waste.

Remembrance Sunday – 11 November, 10am (more details can be found [here](#)).

TVBC planned changes to the household waste collections (more info [here](#)) will now be delayed or scrapped due the Government now proposing that waste collectors will be able to collect dry recyclables together, in the same bin or bag, and collect organic waste together, to reduce the number of bins required at each household.

7. To update, discuss and decide on resident request for Defibrillator at Branksome Avenue/Close: Prior to the meeting MD informed Cllrs that she had emailed the resident who proposed the installation asking if they would be prepared to house the defib cabinet on their property. As yet no response. A local electrician has quoted £40/hr to investigate if there is still a power supply to the telephone kiosk and provide a quote for installation of the defib cabinet. After discussion, Cllrs agreed not to proceed with this proposal.

**8. Correspondence:**

4/10/23 - HCC Response to DD re Joys Lane cul-de-sac sign ([61123 2](#))

5/10/23 - Test Valley School Awards Night - 23 November 2023 ([61123 3](#)) – discussed under finance

3/10/23 - S Picco response re power connection to Branksome Close telephone kiosk for defib ([61123 4](#))

12/10/23 - HALC October '23 Newsletter ([61123 5](#))

12/10/23 - HCC re Letters for Parish and Town Councils regarding overgrown vegetation and ditch clearance ([61123 6](#))

16/10/23 - TVBC Polling District and polling Place Review 2023 ([61123 7](#))

19/10/23 - Parking outside village shop response from HCC Highways ([61123 10](#))

20/10/23 - River Test Pollution ([61123 11](#)) – discussed under item 5Dvii

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24/10/23 - Test Valley Resilience Forum Saturday 28th October 2023 ([61123 12](#))

31/10/23 - RPA re Delinked Payments Information Statements are coming soon ([61123 18](#))

3/11/23 – (Via post) A thank you card and letter from Wherwell Primary School for the donation towards their library.

9. Questions from Public: NONE

10. Any Other Business:

First Aid course: To date only 11 residents have registered an interest in attending a full first aid training course. The quote received from St John Ambulance was based on 20+ attendees. After discussion, Cllrs agreed to arrange refresher first aid courses instead. MD to contact R Mawer. **Action: MD**

11. Items for next agenda:

To discuss 2024/25 budget – Cllrs were asked to inform MD of any items required for the 24/25 budget by Monday 13 November '23.

12. Date of next scheduled meeting: Monday 4 December '23; 18:30 at Chilbolton Village Hall. All monthly reports to be circulated by 12:00 Monday 27 November '23.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was closed at 20:40.

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